Chapter 1

Once upon a time on Sunflower lane there was a young girl named Pippy Princenton. She lived in a lovely neighbourhood where it was always sunny. Pippy loved living on Sunflower lane because everybody was so nice and humbling.

Pippy’s house was on the corner, number 33. Next door to her lived Pippy’s best friend Jane, her daughter Lily and her husband Bill. Next door to them lived another good friend of Pippy’s. It was Sarah-Lee, owner of the garden nursery up the road. But the one thing that Pippy loved the most about Sunflower lane was......... THE GARDENS!

If there was one thing that Pippy loved doing it was definitely GARDENING! She would drive miles and miles and miles to see a good garden. Pippy had roses, pansies, tulips, daisies, lilies, frangipanis, gerberas, lavenders and her favourite SUNFLOWERS in her garden

When Pippy was on her way home from Sarah-Lee’s nursery she remembered that she was meeting Jane at the picnic ground for lunch at 1:00. Then she looked at the clock and it was 12:45. This meant that Pippy only had 15 minutes left to get home, make some sandwiches and get ready for lunch.

Chapter 2

When Pippy arrived home she quickly got out of her small green car and dashed for the front door. First she stopped at the kitchen, she took a big sniff of her home grown parsley that was sitting on the bench and began to make her sandwiches.

Pippy pulled four pieces of bread out of the bag and placed them on the kitchen table. On goes the cheese, then the lettuce and lastly the tomato. “YUM” Pippy said to herself as she put the sandwiches in the picnic basket. But there was no time to be daydreaming, Pippy looked back up at the star shaped clock, 12:50! Pippy was amazed!

She ran to her bedroom up the hall and grabbed the first dress she could find. This dress was yellow with pink and blue flowers and a purple bow. What Pippy didn’t notice was that she had picked a dress from the chuck out pile, this dress had a big rip down the back! Anyway, Pippy had no time to change either, grab the basket, lock the door and straight to the picnic ground was the only thing going through Pippy's mind!

When Pippy finally arrived at the picnic ground it was right on 1:00. She looked around foe Jane but she was nowhere to be seen. Jane was known for being late so Pippy just sat herself down next to a large tree.

Chapter 3

Pippy was still looking around the place when she found something tickling her back through the hole of her dress. “AHHH” she yelled and jumped to her feet, but when Pippy saw everybody staring at her she decided to slowly sit back down. On her way to the ground Pippy noticed a big, colourful poster pinned to the tree!

She read it quietly to herself,

*GARDEN COMPETITION*

*Get your gardens ready!*

*Mayor Toppleton will be judging the best and most colourful garden on Sunflower lane*

Pippy was so excited! “I must get home” she thought to herself and that instant she called Jane and called off lunch.

A million things were running through Pippy’s mind at that moment. The first thing was Sarah-Lee’s nursery. Her shopping list included:

1. 2 bags of potting mix
2. 3 sunflowers
3. 1 watering can ( her’s broke)
4. 4 Daisy flower plants
5. 2 lavenders
6. And 1 new weeder

This garden will be the best!!

Chapter 4

Once Pippy had purchased everything on her list she went home as fast as she could. A quick outfit change was all she needed now. After a few minutes it was like a whole new girl walked out of the brightly coloured door of Pippy’s house.

This ‘stranger’ was dressed really casually in a pair of old overalls and gumboots. “IT’S ON!” Pippy got out everything she could find in her shed that related with gardening and began.

* Day 1, All weeds out!
* Day 2, Potting mix down!
* Day 3, Sunflowers in!
* Day 4, Lavenders in!
* Day 5, Daisies in!
* Day 6, Water it all!
* Day 7, Get judged!
* Day 8, WIN!

That was the plan for Pippy’s new and improved garden!

Pippy got to work ASAP and started to plant! It took Pippy just 6 days to complete her garden, but on the night of the big finish something went terribly, terribly wrong!

Chapter 5

That morning when Pippy Princenton woke up and went to check on what she thought was her finished garden something brought her to big surprise! As she walked through her front garden Pippy was just speechless.

Her sunflower petals were torn, the lavender tops were ripped, the daisy stems had been broken and the potting mix was scattered all over the place! Pippy’s jaw dropped in amazement, the whole front garden was destroyed!

As she finally got to the corner of the garden, there it was the destroyer of all her hard work...

SPOT?!? Pippy was deeply confused. How did Jane’s (her best friend’s) dog get into her garden!

She stared at the dog sitting there nibbling on the last thing she had left, her watering can. Pippy snatched it away and saved it just in time. She shooed away spot before he did anymore damage. If she had any chance of winning the garden competition now in just 2 days Pippy had better GET TO WORK!

Chapter 6

The first time Pippy completed her garden she planned her time, this time she just went ahead and started. And another thing that Pippy did before. Each thing she did to her garden took one day. This time Pippy would have to do a lot more than that!

Again Pippy was dressed really casually. “ down goes the potting mix, then the sunflowers, then the lavenders, then the daisies and lastly water” Pippy knew what she needed to do all it came down to was, could she do it?

It came to judging day. Mayor Toppleton, Sally Torcad and Chontelle Direp lined up on the judging panel. “I welcome you all here today for this year’s garden competition!” Mayor Toppleton began. “We will now begin!” Pippy felt all the butterflies she could count fly into her tummy. This was the day she had be waiting for her whole life!

Pippy peered down Sunflower lane and could just see the judges beginning to browse.

Chapter 7

Before Pippy could put the finishing touches on her garden and make sure everything was perfect the judges were standing before her. Pippy was shaking and hoping that the actual mayor didn’t notice!

Pippy just stood at the gate and did’nt say a word as she watched nervously. Out they went, the judges gave Pippy a polite little nod and finally it was all over! The next day in the afternoon all of the Sunflower community gathered at the end of the lane for the big announcement.

“ 3rd prize goes to.....SARAH-LEE GILFORD”

Shouted Chontelle Direp

“2nd prize goes to.....JANE PRELAD”

Screamed Sally Torcad

“and 1st prize goes to.....PIPPY PRINCENTON!”

Smiled Mayor Toppleton!

The announcement was followed by claps and cheers as Sarah-Lee, Jane and Pippy made their way up to the judging panel. Sarah-Lee was handed a gift box, Jane was given a lovely bunch of flowers and Pippy got crowned with a silver tiara and a big, gold trophy. They both had ‘WINNER OF THE 2010 SUNFLOWER LANE GARDEN COMPETITION’ in printed on them.

Pippy was again speechless but this time it was for a much different reason!! C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\Media\CntCD1\Animated\j0336476.gif

ABOUT THE AUTHOR 

Hey, I’m Mikayla Bennett, as you might already know I wrote this story, PIPPY’S GARDEN!!!

In this story I wanted to capture the old saying ‘There is a first time for everything.’

Reason being I have experienced a few moments when I just needed someone to say ‘It’s ok to make mistakes’ when there are moments like these in your lives I want you to pull out this book, whether you’re at school or you’re out in park or in the shops I want you to pull it out and just flick through pages and imagine someone telling you ‘It’s ok to make mistakes.”

I am a very open person, just like Pippy. She will never give up or let something get to her. I think of Pippy’s character similar to mine and Jane’s and Sarah-Lee’s characters take after my friends. Mayor Toppleton came from my dad and Chontelle Direp is my mum. Sally Torcad is my teacher and Spot is the name of one of my friend’s pets. All the stories I write have characters that take after my family and friends.

I really hope you like my story and I hope that you can connect with it and relate to its main storyline.

See you all later!

Mikayla Bennett!